CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

5 1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Formula I,

wherein

R¹ is selected from alkyl; aryl-loweralkyl; heterocycle-loweralkyl; loweralkyl-carbonate; amino optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted with a substituent selected from loweralkyl, aryl and hydroxyloweralkyl; benzimidaz-2-yl;

15 and

wherein R⁴ is phenyl optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted with a substituent selected from loweralkyl and halo; phenyl optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted with a substituent selected from amino, loweralkoxy, hydroxy and loweralkyl; NHCH₂CH₂OX wherein X represents an *in vivo* hydrolyzable ester; and loweralkyl-

- (R⁵)(R⁶) wherein one of R⁵ and R⁶ is selected from H and loweralkyl and the other is selected from carboxy, carboxy-loweralkyl and loweralkoxycarbonyl; and R² and R³ are independently selected from H, NO₂, halo, di(loweralkyl)amino, cyano, C(O)OH, phenyl-S-, loweralkyl, and Z(O)OR⁷ wherein Z is selected from C and S and R⁷ is selected from H, loweralkylamino and arylamino;
- and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, in an amount effective to inhibit neurotrophin-mediated activity, and a suitable carrier.
- A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein R¹ is selected from alkyl; aryl-loweralkyl; heterocycle-loweralkyl; loweralkyl-carbonate; amino optionally monosubstituted or disubstitutued with a substituent selected from loweralkyl and hydroxyloweralkyl; benzimidaz-2-yl;

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wherein R⁴ is phenyl optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted with a substitutent selected from loweralkyl and halo; phenyl optionally monosubstituted or disubstituted

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loweralkoxy-carbonyl; and

with a substituent selected from amino, loweralkoxy, hydroxy and loweralkyl;

NHCH₂CH₂OX wherein X represents an *in vivo* hydrolyzable ester; and loweralkyl
R⁵)(R⁶) wherein one of R⁵ and R⁶ is selected from H and loweralkyl and the other is selected from carboxy, carboxy-loweralkyl and loweralkoxy-carbonyl; and

R² and R³ are independently selected from H, NO₂, halo, di(loweralkyl)amino, and phenyl
S-.

- 3. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2, wherein R¹ is selected from aryl-loweralkyl; heterocycle-loweralkyl; loweralkyl-carbonate; amino optionally monosubstituted or disbstitutued with a substituent selected from loweralkyl and hydroxyloweralkyl; benzimidaz-2-yl; NHCH₂CH₂OX wherein X represents an *in vivo* hydrolyzable ester; and loweralkyl-(R⁵)(R⁶) wherein one of R⁵ and R⁶ is selected from H
- 15 R² and R³ are independently selected from H, NO₂, di(loweralkyl)amino, and phenyl-S-.

and loweralkyl and the other is selected from carboxy, carboxy-loweralkyl and

- A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is selected from amino optionally monosubstituted or disbstitutued with a substituent selected from loweralkyl and hydroxyloweralkyl; NHCH₂CH₂OX wherein X represents an *in vivo* hydrolyzable ester; and loweralkyl-(R⁵)(R⁶) wherein one of R⁵ and R⁶ is selected from H and loweralkyl and the other is selected from carboxy, carboxy-loweralkyl and loweralkoxy-carbonyl; and
 R² and R³ are independently selected from H and NO₃.
- 25 5. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1 wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

N-{5-Nitro-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione}-2-aminoethanol;
N-Dimethylamino-1,3-dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)acetic acid;
N-Acetoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;

N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol; N-Furfuryl-1,8-naphthalimide; 6-(N,N-Dimethylamino)-2-(benzimidazol-2-yl)naphthalimide; N-(Pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,8-naphthalimide; 5 1,3-Dioxo-6-phenylmercapto-N-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 2-{2-(4-Methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl}-6-(N,N-dimethylamino)naphthalimide; $1,3-Dioxo-2-\{2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1,2,4-tetrahydro-1$ 10 benzo[i]isoquinoline; N-Octyl-5-nitronaphthalimide; 5-Bromo-1,3-dioxo-N-methylpyrid-3-yl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo-[i]isoquinoline; 1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-N-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro[i]isoquinoline; 15 6-Nitro-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl)naphthalimide; N-(1,3-Dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol; Naphthalicacid-N-aminoimide; 2-{2-(4-Methylbenzsulphonamido)-4,5-dichlorophenyl}naphthalimide; 3-Nitro-1,8-(N-propioncarboxylate)succinamidonapthalene; 20 1,3-Dioxo-2-(2-aminophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 6-Nitro-2-(pyrid-3-methyl)naphthalimide; 3-Amino-7,4-bis(ethyl-1,3-dioxo)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 2-(Benzimidaz-2-yl)-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 2-(2-Aminophenyl)naphthalimide; $1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-\{4,5-dimethyl-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl\}-1,3-Dioxo-2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl$ 25 1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 3-Methyl-3-(1,3-dioxo-5-nitro(1H,3H)benz[de]isoquinolyl)butyric acid methylester; 1,3-Dioxo-N-methyltetrahydrofurfur-2-yl-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-30 [i]isoquinoline;

N-(4-Ethoxyphenyl)-5-nitronaphthalimide; 6-Nitro-2-(furfuryl)naphthalimide; Ethyl-5-nitro-1,3-dioxo-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-2-3H-acetate; Naphthalicacid-N,N'-diimide; 5 2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)naphthalimide; 5-Amino-N-butylnaphthalimide; 1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-n-propylmorpholino-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; 6-Nitro-2-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)naphthalimide: N-Methylnaphthalimide; 10 N-(Pyrid-2-ylmethyl)naphthalimide; N-(3,5-Dimethylphenyl)-1,8-naphthalimide; 6-Bromo-N-dimethylamino-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo-[i]isoquinoline; N-(1,3-Dioxo-6-phenylmercapto-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol; and 15 N-Anilino-1,8-naphthalimide. 6. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 2 wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of: 20 N-{5-Nitro-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione}-2-aminoethanol: N-Dimethylamino-1,3-dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)acetic acid; N-Acetoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol; N-Furfuryl-1,8-naphthalimide; 25 6-(N,N-Dimethylamino)-2-(benzimidazol-2-yl)naphthalimide; N-(Pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,8-naphthalimide; 1,3-Dioxo-6-phenylmercapto-N-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-

benzo[i]isoquinoline;

- 2-{2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl}-6-(N,N-dimethylamino)-naphthalimide;
- 1,3-Dioxo-2-{2-(4-methylphenylsulphonamido)phenyl}-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-benzo[i]isoquinoline;
- 5 N-Octyl-5-nitronaphthalimide;
 - 5-Bromo-1,3-dioxo-N-methylpyrid-3-yl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo-[i]isoquinoline;
 - 1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-N-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro[i]isoquinoline;
 - 6-Nitro-2-(tetrahydrofuran-2-ylmethyl)naphthalimide;
- N-(1,3-Dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol;
 Naphthalicacid-N-aminoimide;
 - 2-{2-(4-Methylbenzsulphonamido)-4,5-dichlorophenyl}naphthalimide;
 - 3-Nitro-1,8-(N-propioncarboxylate)succinamidonapthalene;
 - 1,3-Dioxo-2-(2-aminophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
- 15 6-Nitro-2-(pyrid-3-methyl)naphthalimide;
 - 3-Amino-7,4-bis(ethyl-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
 - 2-(Benzimidaz-2-yl)-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; and
 - 2-(2-Aminophenyl)naphthalimide.
- 7. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 3 wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of:
 - N-{5-Nitro-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione}-2-aminoethanol;
 - N-Dimethylamino-1,3-dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
 - N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)acetic acid;
- N-Acetoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
 - N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol;
 - N-Furfuryl-1,8-naphthalimide;
 - 6-(N,N-Dimethylamino)-2-(benzimidazol-2-yl)naphthalimide;
 - N-(Pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,8-naphthalimide; and

1,3-Dioxo-6-phenylmercapto-N-(pyrid-2-ylethyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline.

8. A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 4 wherein the compound of Formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

N-{5-Nitro-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione}-2-aminoethanol; N-Dimethylamino-1,3-dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)acetic acid; N-Acetoxy-1,3-dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline; and

- N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol.
 - 9. A pharmaceutical composition as defined in claim 1, which inhibits NGF-mediated activity.
- 15 10. A method for inhibiting a neurotrophin-mediated activity comprising the step of exposing neuron cells to an effective amount of a composition as defined in claim 1.
- A method for inhibiting a neurotrophin-mediated activity in a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a
 composition as defined in claim 1.
 - 12. A method as defined in claim 11, wherein said composition is administered intraventricularly.
- 25 13. An *in vivo* hydrolyzable ester or amide of a compound selected from the group consisting of:

N-{5-Nitro-1H-benz[de]isoquinoline-1,3(2H)-dione}-2-aminoethanol; N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)acetic acid;

N-(1,3-Dioxo-5-nitro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol;

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N-(1,3-Dioxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline)aminoethanol;

Naphthalicacid-N-aminoimide;

- 3-Nitro-1,8-(N-propioncarboxylate)succinamidonapthalene;
- 1,3-Dioxo-2-(2-aminophenyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
- 3-Amino-7,4-bis(ethyl-1,3-dioxo)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydrobenzo[i]isoquinoline;
 - 2-(2-Aminophenyl)naphthalimide; and
 - 2-(2-Hydroxyphenyl)naphthalimide.